

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion protein, said fusion protein comprising a Math1 or a Hath1 amino acid sequence and an amino acid sequence for ~~that is not an *atonal*-associated amino acid sequence, wherein the amino acid sequence that is not an *atonal*-associated amino acid sequence comprises~~ a receptor binding domain of a bacterial toxin or a protein transduction domain.

49.-54. (Cancelled)

55. (Cancel)

56. (Cancelled)

57.-58. (Cancel)

59. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid sequence of claim 48, wherein the bacterial toxin is selected from the group consisting of exotoxin A, cholera toxin, and ricin.

60. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid sequence of claim 48, wherein the protein transduction domain comprises HIV Tat protein.